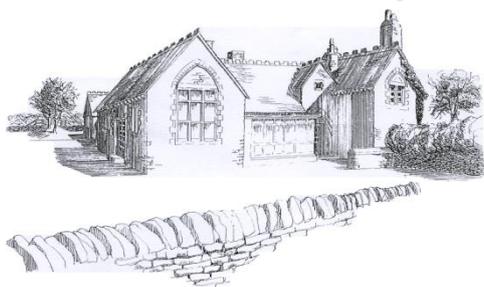


# Clanfield CE Primary School



Fortnightly Newsletter 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct 2020

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## A Message from the Co-Heads

Dear Families,

You would have heard lots of rumours and seen sensational headlines about the failures of the testing system at the moment. It is not great, but you'll also realise that it is the most extreme cases that make the headlines.

I attended a webinar with Oxfordshire County Council and Public Health England and 2 Oxfordshire schools shared their stories. I thought it would be useful to share with you what the experience has been like for those schools and families who have taken the Covid test so you can be prepared if you need to arrange a test.

The main difficulty has been getting a test booked in. Once the online form is complete the message is usually 'No test appointments available'. Unfortunately, the only option in this case is to try again – you don't have to go through the whole process again, simply refresh and re-submit.

Most families did get an appointment, but for some this took all day. There seem to be key times when blocks of new appointments are released. Unofficially, this seems to be at around 8am, 10am and 8pm. Most of these families have finally got a slot, although for some it took all day (one ended asking for a home test instead) but the appointment may not be in Oxford – it could be quite a drive away (the furthest offer was Worcester (1 ½ hours' drive) It may be worth trying to opt for a walk-in centre if you're having no luck with drive-ins – there's one at Oxford Brookes which one family used, but it still needs to be booked through the online system. Parents who have phoned the 119 number instead have been discouraged from doing so as the people answering the phones don't have any priority access. This service is aimed at families who don't have internet access.

Once taken the majority of test results seem to be coming back within 72 hours. I realise the difficulty and frustrations this process causes parents. We are only asking families to self-isolate and test, if someone has one of the symptoms of; high temperature, a persistent cough or lack of taste/ smell. There are a lot of children with colds, sore throats or tummy bugs about now. This was News from our school probably as a result of all the children suddenly coming back together again, and passing their new ailments to each other whilst immune systems are lower as a result of the distancing they have been doing over the last 6 months.

I am hoping that this initial burst of illnesses will come to a natural end soon, making it easier to identify those children who are more likely to have covid symptoms rather than fevers and coughs caused by other viruses such as the common cold. I hope that clarifies the current situation around Oxfordshire at the moment. I will, of course, update you if things change for the better or worse!

Mrs Rogers and the Clanfield Team

## Teaching Assistant of the Year

This is the first time we have handed out this special award and for some this will come as no surprise.

This award goes to Mrs Krzywiec for always going the extra mile in all that she does. She is the sort of colleague every workplace needs. Her glass is always half-full and her enthusiasm and passion is such a valuable resource. Throughout lockdown she offered to work every day and there is no end to her commitment for the school. I feel very lucky to have her as one of our team and cannot thank her enough for all she has done this year. Fiona, enjoy your 'special coaster' and teaching assistant training.



## Collective Worship

We were very excited to welcome Reverend Janice back to school to join us for our whole school Collective Worship. We had planned on being outside to appreciate nature and our beautiful surroundings however the weather did not allow this to happen. Plan B came into action and we logged onto Zoom to see Reverend Janice and the rest of the school from the comfort of our own classrooms/bubbles. If you have seen your child looking in a mirror and saying 'WOW', it is an extension of our time spent reflecting on being unique and loving ourselves just the way we are. We also had some time to appreciate our planet and the world God has created for us. We are already looking forward to the next whole school Collective Worship as we join together via live video!



## Parents Evening

This will be now held during the last week of term. It will be carried out using Google Classroom and appointments will be made via the Parents2Teachers app. Dependant on cover appointments will start between 2pm and 2.30pm.

Due to cover arrangements, space, and technology we have had to arrange the appointments over 5 days.

You will receive the details next week as soon as we hear from Eduspot confirming our setup.

## Secondary School Applications

Online applications for Year 7 places in a secondary school in September 2021 close on 31st October 2020. For more information on how to apply please got to:

[www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions)  
If you do not have internet access, you should visit your child's current school or a local library where you will be able to view the 'Moving On' admissions booklet online, or you can ask the school office to print a copy of the paper application form for you.

## COATS

The temperature is definitely changing!

Please ensure all coats are in school every day.

## Diamond Class



Diamond Class are very excited about our English theme 'Fairy Tales'. The Three Billy Goats Gruff has provided opportunities for Drama, Reading and Writing. Sequencing the story through Drama has definitely been the highlight so far!



The outdoor classroom is still proving popular and is offering a wonderful extension to what we are learning inside the classroom.

Miss Thomas



LET'S COME  
**TOGETHER**  
AND SUPPORT EACH OTHER ON  
**#HelloYellow**  
ON 9 OCTOBER

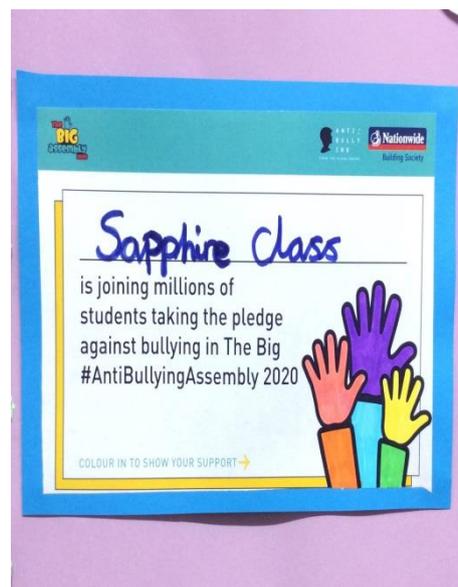
## Sapphire Class



Over the last 2 weeks, we have written some brilliant poems. The latest was called 'Sky is'. We lay on the ground looking up at the sky and reflected on what we heard, saw, and felt. We then used water colours to paint what we saw. All of this was used to inspire our writing; we are all extremely proud of what we achieved, and we even used special gel pens to write them up in best. In Science, we have been acting out the arrangements of particles for each state, and we conducted an experiment to test whether different types of chocolate have the same melting point.

We also took part in The BIG Anti-Bullying Assembly 2020; we each put our hands up and pledged to put a stop to bullying, to celebrate diversity and to create communities of kindness. There are many activities and advice on the <https://diana-award.org.uk/> website if you would like to get more involved. We are excited to continue our fun learning over the weeks ahead.

Miss Davies





## Topaz Class

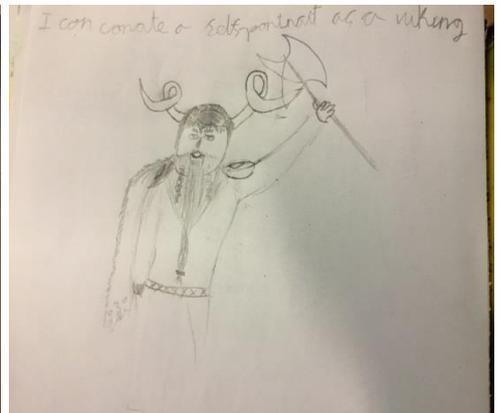
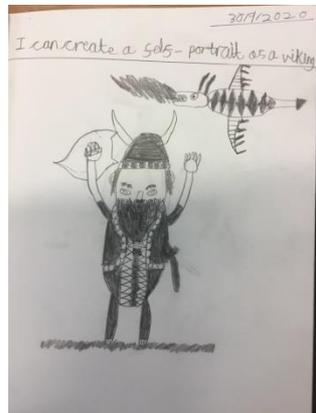
In Topaz, we have been making great strides in our brilliant learning. During our work on biographies, we are very excited to be writing about the inspirational people behind our four new house teams (which will be launched after half term).

We have finished reading 'How to Train your Dragon' and are very excited about starting to explore Norse Mythology.

A highlight of Science has been creating a Solar System out of fruit!

In Art, we have been working hard to improve our accuracy of drawing and we are now starting to apply this to our project – creating engraved pinch pots. What an adventure! We can't wait to continue our learning over the next two weeks!

Dr Wallis and Mrs Heaslip



## Bubble or Whole School Lockdown

In the event of a bubble or a whole school lockdown, please find attached our remote learning policy.



## Thank you

We would like to say a big thank you to Mr Ferrige for sweeping up the leaves around school.

## Dates for your diary

Parents evening (Telephone appointments)	Date changed to w/c 19 <sup>th</sup> October
Harvest festival (Video performance)	End of Sept/October (Date TBC)
Christmas Performances Ruby/Diamond (Video performances)	W/c 7 <sup>th</sup> December
Sapphire/Topaz (Video performances)	w/c 14 <sup>th</sup> December
Shoe boxes	Parents can drop in from 1 <sup>st</sup> to 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec
Red nose day	19 <sup>th</sup> March 2021
Easter service	29 <sup>th</sup> March 2021
Sports Day	2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2021

## Celebrations/Awareness Days

September	National TA Day
October	Black History Month + National Bullying Prevention Month
November	Outdoor Classroom Day + Remembrance Day
February	E-Safety Week
March	World Book Day (dress up day) + International Women's Day
April	National Awareness day - Autism + National Earth Day
May	International Space Day
June	World Ocean's Day + Forces Day